

#3 2131
PATENT

Practitioner's Docket No. I090 1010.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **David Shay**

Application No.: 10/065,775

Group No.: 2131

Filed: November 18, 2002

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: System and Method for Intrusion Prevention in a Communications Network

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

ATTENTION: Group Director, Group 2100 (M.P.E.P., § 1002.02(c))

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PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL
(37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d) AND M.P.E.P. § 708.02, XI)

Technology Center 2100

Applicant hereby petitions to make this application special as being for an invention for countering terrorism.

1. Accompanying material

Accompanying this petition is a statement by the assignee explaining how the invention contributes to a communications network intrusion prevention system.

2. Fee


The fee required by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) is to be paid by:

Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$130.00 to Deposit Account No. 09-0528.

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Date: 12/16/02


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Reg. No.: 32,497

Tel. No.: 404-888-7412

Customer No.: 26158

John J Timar


Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC

P.O. box 7307

Atlanta, GA 30357-0037

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STATEMENT OF ASSIGNEE IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

The Assignee requests that this patent application be made special under 37 CFR § 1.102 and in accordance with MPEP § 708.02 XI because it is directed to an invention for countering terrorism. More specifically, the invention is directed to a system and method for preventing intrusion in a communications network and provides mechanisms countering cyberterrorism threats.

The President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection was formed in 1996 to study the critical infrastructures that constitute the life support systems of the U.S., to determine their vulnerabilities to a wide range of threats, and to propose a strategy for protecting the critical infrastructures in the future. The eight critical infrastructures identified were telecommunications, banking and finance, electrical power, oil and gas distribution and storage, water supply, transportation, emergency services, and government services. Intentional exploitation of these vulnerabilities can have severe consequences for the U.S. economy, security and way of life. Potentially serious cyber attacks can be conceived and planned without detectable logistical preparation. Although the use of physical means to exploit physical vulnerabilities probably remains the greatest threat to U.S. infrastructures today, the new cyber vulnerabilities pose significant threats to critical infrastructures. A study by the Institute For

Security Technology Studies indicated that political conflicts have led increasingly to attacks on cyber systems. The study stated that (1) cyber-attacks immediately accompany physical attacks; (2) cyber-attacks are increasing in volume, sophistication, and coordination; and (3) cyber-attackers are attracted to high value targets that are likely to be symbolic political targets.

President Bush directed the development of a National Strategy To Secure Cyberspace to ensure that America has a clear roadmap to protect a part of its infrastructure that is essential to American life. The draft of that roadmap was developed in close collaboration with key sectors of the economy that rely on cyberspace, including state and local governments, colleges and universities, and concerned organizations. For the strategy to work, a broad cross section of the U.S. must be committed to the plan.

The invention provides an access control and user session layer security framework that prevents unwanted connections to both new and existing computing resources. It prevents unknown devices and users from establishing communication connections to critical infrastructure. It prevents unknown devices and users from establishing sessions to shared application resources. The invention requires that authentication be granted at both the hardware and user session levels; thereby linking hardware access to user requested services. By securing granted permissions at these levels, unknown hardware devices are prevented from communicating with the network infrastructure, thereby preventing threats associated with network intrusions.

The invention utilizes the normal features of protocol operation and exploits how the protocol works to provide authenticated user level security. Unique identifiers are created each time a device is used. This information is uniquely encrypted and becomes part of the normal packet structure. By utilizing normal protocol operands to carry authenticated identifiers, no modification to the packet structure is required; therefore intruders will notice no difference

between protected and unprotected packet flow. By providing the ability to require data packets to carry "digital passports" without modifying the size or shape of the underlying Internet Protocol, the invention is a revolutionary advancement that, when adopted, will lead to critical infrastructure protection.

Date: 12-16-02

Trusted Network Technologies, Inc.

By: 

Derek Gant
President and Chief Operating Officer
Assignment: filed herewith

Trusted Network Technologies, Inc.
4295 Courageous Wake
Alpharetta, Georgia 30005

Reel/Frame: not recorded